



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI

TODD P. GRAVES

Contact Don Ledford, Public Affairs • (816) 426-4220 • 400 East Ninth Street, Room 5510 • Kansas City, MO 64106

www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow

APRIL 9, 2004

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OTTERVILLE FELON INDICTED FOR ILLEGAL POSSESSION OF STOLEN FIREARMS

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that an Otterville, Mo., man was indicted by a federal grand jury today for being a felon in possession of stolen firearms.

Tracy Allen Howe, 35, of Otterville, was charged in a two-count indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Jefferson City.

Count One of the federal indictment alleges that **Howe** was in possession of an Armi Fratelli Tanfoglio Buffalo Scout .22 caliber revolver and a Pistolet Automatique with ammunition on Jan. 9, 2004, in Otterville. Under federal law, Graves explained, it is illegal for any felon to be in possession of any firearm or ammunition. **Howe** has a 2000 criminal felony conviction for receiving stolen property, and a 2000 criminal felony conviction for passing a bad check.

Count Two of the federal indictment alleges that the firearms **Howe** possessed on Jan. 9, 2004, had been stolen.

Graves cautioned that the charges contained in the indictment are simply accusations, and not evidence of guilt. Evidence supporting the charges must be presented to a federal trial jury, whose duty is to determine guilt or innocence.

The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Lawrence E. Miller. It was investigated by the Morgan County, Mo., Sheriff's Department, the Sedalia, Mo., Police Department, the Missouri State Highway Patrol and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at
www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow